

REMARKS

In this paper, claims 27, 29 and 31 are currently amended, and claim 39 has been added. After entry of the above amendment, claims 1-39 are pending.

The applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 1-26.

The applicant also appreciates the indicated allowability of claims 29 and 31-38 if rewritten to be in independent . Claims 29 and 31 have been rewritten to be in independent form, including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, so it is believed that claims 29 and 31-38 are now allowable.

Claims 27, 28 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Nagano (US Re 32,924). This basis for rejection is respectfully traversed.

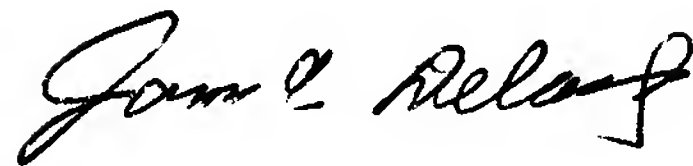
Claim 27 has been amended to clarify that a laterally inner surface of the first lower mounting portion of the first bracket body is structured to support a laterally outer surface of the base member. Nagano discloses a bicycle rear derailleur wherein a fixing member (1) is mounted to a fork end (H) of a bicycle frame laterally outwardly from the bicycle frame, and a base member (2) of the derailleur is mounted to fixing member (1) laterally outwardly from fixing member (1). Nagano neither discloses nor suggests a laterally inner surface of a first lower mounting portion of a first bracket body structured to support a laterally outer surface of the base member as recited in claim 27. For that reason, Nagano also neither discloses nor suggests the laterally inner surface of the first lower mounting portion facing toward the laterally outer surface of the base member as recited in claim 39.

Accordingly, it is believed that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 has been overcome by the foregoing amendment and remarks, and it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested. Allowance of all claims is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James A. Deland".

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